

## **FISCAL NOTE**

### **HB 993 - SB 1129**

April 4, 2007

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Authorizes a defendant in a divorce action to challenge the judge hearing the case without cause in the same manner as peremptory challenges of jurors are conducted.

#### **ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

**Increase State Expenditures – Not Significant**

**Increase Local Govt. Expenditures – Not Significant**

**Other Fiscal Impact – In judicial districts that have only one sitting judge or a very limited number of judges, the proposed legislation could result in a need for additional resources to increase the number of sitting judges. State and local government courts may require additional funding but such can not be determined at this time.**

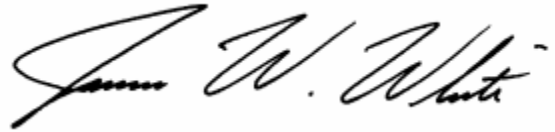
Assumptions:

- There will not be a significant increase in state and local government expenditures for the time to reassign the case to another judge, unless there is not an option of another judge.
- The Administrative Offices of the Court does not maintain data relevant to the subject matter of this bill.
- It is impossible to determine the number of challenges that will occur and the amount of backlog, if any, that the state and local courts may incur as a result of the proposed legislation.

#### **CERTIFICATION:**

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

**HB 993 - SB 1129**

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James W. White". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "J" and "W".

James W. White, Executive Director